

BEFORE THE DELAWARE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: PAUL J. WALKER

LICENSE NO.: L1-0040631

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Case No.: 11-64-13

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**COMPLAINT
AND MOTION FOR EMERGENCY SUSPENSION**

1. Paul J. Walker (“Respondent”) is a Registered Nurse in the State of Delaware. Respondent’s license, number L1-0040631, was issued in June 2011 and is active.

2. Respondent’s address is 2207 Concord Pike, Apartment 180 Wilmington, Delaware 19803.

3. On or about July 13, 2013, Respondent was arrested by the Towamencin Township Police in Pennsylvania while in possession of thirty-three (33) bags of heroin and four (4) bags of cocaine.

4. Respondent was charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance (heroin and cocaine), possession of drug paraphernalia and receipt in commerce of a controlled substance.

5. Possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and receipt in commerce of a controlled substance are all crimes substantially related to the practice of nursing pursuant to Board Regulation 15.

6. Respondent is not currently incarcerated and is not scheduled for a hearing on these matters until October, 2013.

7. Respondent was employed as a registered nurse following his arrest and resigned

from his position at DuBois Regional Medical Center in central Pennsylvania on July 20, 2013 due to allegations of misconduct.

8. By the aforesaid conduct, Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct in violation of 24 *Del. C.* § 1922(a)(8) and the following Board Rules:

a. 10.4.1 in that his behavior failed to conform to legal standards and accepted standards of the nursing profession and thus may adversely affect the health and welfare of the public;

b. 10.4.2.14 in that he failed to take appropriate action to safeguard a patient from incompetent, unethical or illegal health care practice;

c. 10.4.2.28 as he failed to take appropriate action to follow policies and procedures in the practice situation designed to safeguard the patient.

11. Based on the serious nature of Respondent's crimes, Respondent presents an immediate and imminent danger to the public health requiring emergency action to temporarily suspend his Delaware nursing licenses pending a final hearing on the complaint pursuant to 24 *Del. C.* § 1923(a).

WHEREFORE, pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* §8735 and 24 *Del. C.* Chapter 19, the State of Delaware respectfully requests that the Board of Nursing:

a. Enter an Order pursuant to the provisions of 24 *Del. C.* § 1923(a) for the temporary suspension of Respondent's licenses due to the immediate and imminent danger he poses to the public health;

b. Serve Respondent with a copy of the Complaint and Motion pursuant to the provisions of 24 *Del.C.* § 1923;

c. Schedule a hearing on the Complaint after suspending Respondent's license;

d. Find Respondent guilty of violating the provisions of 24 *Del. C.* § 1923 as alleged herein; and,

e. Permanently revoke Respondent's licenses to practice nursing or take such other action as deemed appropriate by the Board.

STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

/s/ Joanna S. Suder
Joanna S. Suder (I.D. # 5808)
Deputy Attorney General
820 N. French Street, Sixth Floor
Wilmington, DE 19801
(302) 577-8400

Date: July 31, 2013